

Information Sheet 10

Child on runaway status at time of review hearing in dependency or delinquency proceeding¹—Findings and orders

We recommend the following findings when the child is on runaway status

The court finds:

The child ran away from the foster care placement on _____

D1 For all hearing types: An out of home placement continues to be necessary and the child's placement was appropriate. (NOTE: Include information supporting the appropriateness of the child's placement prior to the child running away in the report.)

D2 For pre-permanency and permanency: The department complied with the case plan by making reasonable efforts to return the child to a safe home and to complete whatever steps were necessary to finalize the permanent plan and has made reasonable efforts to locate the child. For post: The department complied with the case plan by making reasonable efforts including whatever steps were necessary to finalize the permanent plan and has made reasonable efforts to locate the child. (NOTE: During the reunification period, the department should continue to work with the parents, supplying referrals, monitoring progress, meeting with them to discuss their progress and plans for the child, and at all hearing stages the department should be considering possible alternative permanent plans and goals that may be available once the child returns to placement as well as making efforts to locate the child.)

D3 For pre-permanency and permanency: The extent of progress made toward alleviating or mitigating the causes necessitating placement

- by the mother has been _____
- by the father has been _____
- by the child has been _____ (for use in a delinquency proceeding)

(NOTE: The report must include information regarding the mother and father's participation in reunification services as set forth in the case plan such as parenting education, substance abuse assessment and treatment, classes re domestic violence, individual and or family counseling, etc., regardless of the child's runaway status. In a

¹ Review hearings (pre-permanency, permanency and post permanency) must be held for a child on runaway status. This issue is specifically addressed in the federal Children's Bureau's Child Welfare Policy Manual in Question 3 of section 8.3C.2, Title IV-E, Foster Care Maintenance Payments Program, State Plan/Procedural Requirements, Case review system. The manual is available at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws/cwpm/index.jsp>

The information in this document is based on laws in effect at the time of publication (August 2004). Federal and state laws may change at any time.

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delinquency proceeding, the report should also include discussion of the child's participation in services prior to the runaway)

D4 For pre-permanency: The likely date by which the child may be returned and safely maintained in the home OR placed for adoption, appointed a legal guardian, placed permanently with a relative, or placed in another planned permanent living arrangement is __/__/__. (NOTE: The date is the date of the permanency hearing.)

D5² For permanency and post permanency: The permanent plan of an identified placement with a specific goal with the placement and specific goal of the placement to be identified and ordered when the child is no longer on run away status.

D6b³ For permanency and post permanency: The likely date by which the child's specific goal will be achieved will be identified when the child is no longer on runaway status.

D7 For all hearing types--The services identified by the department in the case plan include those needed to assist the child in making the transition from foster care to independent living. The child and probation officer will reassess the services set forth in the case plan and develop a Transitional Independent Living Plan when the child is no longer on runaway status. (NOTE: The department should have sufficient knowledge of the child's needs to set forth appropriate services for the child pending the child's return from run away status and at that time the department and the child can more fully develop a plan.)

² This assumes the child's permanent plan is an identified placement with a specific goal. If the child has a permanent plan of adoption or guardianship, that plan should be identified and ordered.

³ This assumes the child's permanent plan is an identified placement with a specific goal. If the child has a permanent plan of adoption or guardianship, use the following: D6a The likely date by which the agency will finalize the permanent plan will be identified when the child is no longer on runaway status.

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